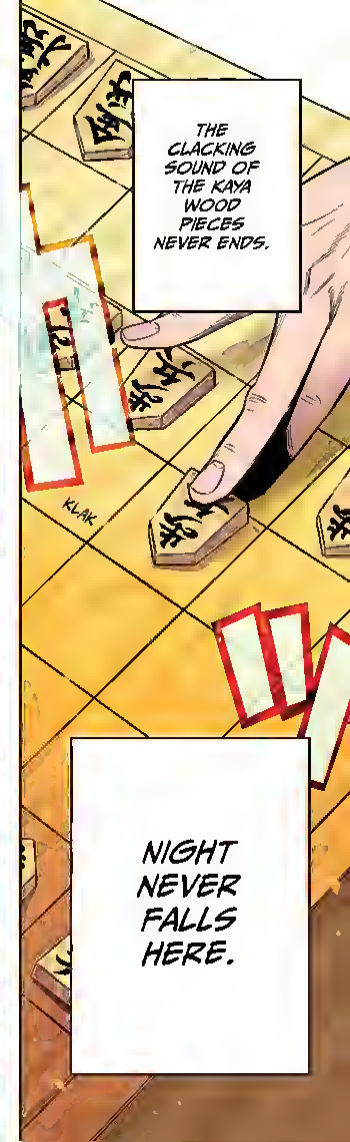
RUSTL
RUSTL
RUSTL
WATER'S BOILING OVER HERE!!
GET ME A COF-FEE
WHO'S ON DRINK DUTY?
MILK TEA FOR ME
WHERE THE HECK ARE MY DONUTS ?!
JUMP START: MONONOFU
A TEN-MINUTE WALK FROM SENDA-GAYA STATION...
I'LL POUR MY OWN THEN!
AH, I'VE GOT THE DRINKS
AND I TOOK THE DO-NUTS
I'LL KILL YOU
RENT IS 30,000 YEN PER MONTH.
IT'S A FOUR-BEDROOM SHARE HOUSE.
KAYANE MANOR.
AND AS THE NAME IMPLIES...
バッ
KLUNK

GAME 1: A SINGLE PAWN

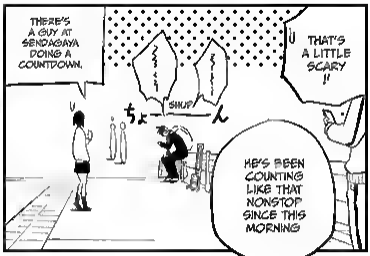

THE CLACKING SOUND OF THE KAYA WOOD PIECES NEVER ENDS.
KLAK
NIGHT NEVER FALLS HERE.

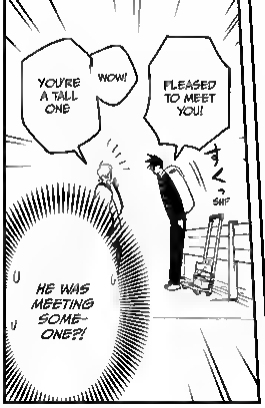
JUMP START!
A TASTE OF WHAT'S NEW IN JAPAN
MONONOFU
BY HARUTO IKEZAWA
CONSULTANT: TAKANORI HASHIMOTO
KLAK
KLAK

ざわ..
CHATTER
15 MINUTES, 41 SECONDS ...
15 MINUTES, 40 SECONDS ...
JR 千駄ヶ谷駅
-Sign Sendagaya Station

ゴゴゴゴゴ
3 MINUTES, 14 SECONDS ...
3 MINUTES, 13 SECONDS ...
RUMBLE

3
2
1...
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!!
TOK
とっこ
TOK
とっこ


THERE'S A GUY AT SENDAGAYA DOING A COUNTDOWN.
THAT'S A LITTLE SCARY !!
SHUP
ちょーーーん
HE'S BEEN COUNTING LIKE THAT NONSTOP SINCE THIS MORNING


YOU'RE A TALL ONE
WOW!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
すっ SHIP
HE WAS MEETING SOME-ONE?!

SHINOBU.. TAKARA-CHAN?
HI THERE I'M YASUKANE NAOI FROM KAYANE MANOR.

WERE YOU WAITING LONG?
どーん 3AM
ONLY FOR THREE HOURS EXACTLY
THAT'S QUITE A WAIT!! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE THEN!!

S-SO SORRY!!
大丈夫? YOU OKAY?
HE'S MOVING, BUT ALL HE HAS ARE REFERENCE BOOKS?

WHOA!!
How cliche!
べろんっ "LOW
PLEASE AND THANK YOU!!
バサァァァ PAUUM

?
THIS GUY'S TOTALLY CLUELESS
UH, IT'S OKAY.
WHY NOT PUT THE HEAVIER ONES ON YOUR CART THERE?
OH. THIS IS KIND OF PRECIOUS, SO I'LL JUST
THEN SHOULDN'T YOU CARRY IT IN YOUR HANDS?
ちょーーーーん
TA
DAA
SO YOU'RE STARTING AT SENGA HIGH? DON'T THEY HAVE DORMS?
YEAH. I WAS PLANNING TO MOVE INTO ONE, BUT THEY WERE ALL DILAPIDATED
SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE BOARDING WITH US TOUGH SPOT TO BE IN FOR A HIGH SCHOOLER
I'M FINE WITH IT...
IT'S TOO HARD... LIVING AT HOME.
?
OH!
THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL.

HIGH: ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

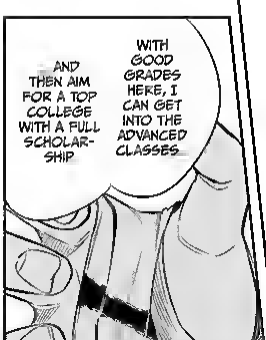
100

102

103

104

TAKARA HAS TO GO TO SOME BACKUP PRIVATE SCHOOL
I PASSED AND I HARDLY GOT ANY SLEEP.
EVEN THOUGH HE STUDIED HIS BUTT OFF?
SNAP
THAT GUY'S JUST TOTALLY CLUE-LESS.
LISTEN, SHINOBU
THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IN SOCIETY ARE THE RESULTS
YOU'RE NOT MAKING YOUR MOTHER PROUD.
はぁ～…
SIGH.
Y-YOU OKAY?!
...


WITH GOOD GRADES HERE, I CAN GET INTO THE ADVANCED CLASSES
AND THEN AIM FOR A TOP COLLEGE WITH A FULL SCHOLAR-SHIP

HUH? YOU HURT YOUR-SELF?
OH NO
SORRY - LET'S GO!

I WON'T BREAK.
FWOO
YES...

PARDON ME!!
HERE WE ARE.

...
KEEP MOVING STRAIGHT AHEAD...
SHINOBU.

どーん
BAM
THESE ARE SNACKS FROM MY HOME-TOWN
THAT TIED-UP THING WAS A GIFT FOR US?!
CHF CHF
ぐるぐるぐる
?
W-WAIT !!
I SEE... THANK YOU.
HA HA...
SINCE IT WAS MEANT FOR OTHERS..
...I DIDN'T WANT IT TO GET CRUSHED
KLAK
WELL...
EVERYONE SHOULD BE IN THE COMMON AREA.
OKAY!
I'M BACK, GUYS.
?
KLAK
WHAT THE...?
THAT NOISE
KLAK

KLAK
?!
KLAK
SLAM
KLAK
SLAM
W-WHAT THE—?!
WHAT IS THIS...?!
CLAP
EVERYONE, WE HAVE A NEW RESIDENT!
THIS IS SHINOBU TAKARA-CHAN!!
CLAP

CLARE
A FIRST-YEAR?! WHAT RANK?!
AH...
YOU'RE JUST HOPING HE'S BELOW YOU
CHATTER
I DON'T REMEMBER THIS GUY
HE'S GOT A FACE LIKE A ROOK.
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
RIGHT DIDN'T SEE YOUR NAME ON THE HOME PAGE LIST
GUESS YOU'RE STARTING NOW, THEN?
UM...

AM I IN THE WRONG PLACE?!
AHHHH
HUH?
SHOUREI ASSOCIA-TION MEMBERS ?
SO HE'S A NOVICE ?!
BEEP
GUESS WE FORGOT TO TELL THE REALTOR ABOUT.
...THE WHOLE "SHOUREI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ONLY" REQUIREMENT.
HUH?!
THIS IS A PLACE FOR...
...SHOGI PROS IN TRAINING.
!

ALL OF US HERE...
...ARE AIMING TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL SHOGI PLAYERS.
SHOGI...
...PROS?!
THE RENT'S CHEAP AND WE'RE CLOSE TO THE SHOGI ASSOCIATION.
AND BEST OF ALL, WE'RE TOTALLY STEEPED IN SHOGI HERE!
WE WOULDN'T LIVE IN THIS DUMP OTHERWISE.
Also, Keishi's not that steeped in it.
SO... WHAT NOW?
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A NOOB
ALL BECAUSE YASUKANE'S BEEN SLACKING ON BACKGROUND CHECKS
UH... UHH...
AHHHH
AHHHH

I'M OUTTA HERE!!
HOLD ON!!
WHAT'LL YOU DO?! YOU'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER PLACE BEFORE THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY!!
BUT I'VE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE
March
Tuesday
29
LET HIM GO! HE'D JUST GET IN THE WAY, BEING UNQUALIFIED AND ALL.
ZING
COME ON, KAZUKI-CHAN!!
WHY NOT JUST LEND HIM A ROOM ?!
ZING
HE'S IN A TOUGH SPOT EITHER WAY, YEAH?
OR HOW ABOUT ...
WHAT ABOUT OUR RENT?
WE'RE IN TROUBLE IF WE DON'T GET ANOTHER RESIDENT TO MOVE IN THIS MONTH.

ZING
ALL YOUR RENTS GO UP BY 10,000 YEN!!
...!
IF WE SEND SHINOBU-CHAN AWAY NOW
SERIOUSLY!! AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE UP WHAT WE'RE MISSING?!
ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU AROUND, SIR!!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY.
MEN SHOULDN'T BE SO WHINY!!
HUH?
BUT...
TOMP
ゆら。
SWAY
..
?

HOW WONDERFUL! THIS MAY JUST WORK OUT.
I'M GOING TO BUY COFFEE.
GINGA-SAN, YOU REALLY DON'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO WHAT'S GOING ON, DO YOU?
PICK UP TOILET PAPER TOO, PLEASE.

I'm Keishi by the way
GOT IT
AND YOU CAN USE THE TABLES DOWNSTAIRS FOR STUDYING
FOR FOOD WE DO LIGHT COOKING AND MICROWAV-ABLES!

I'm Mi-nato.
GOT IT
THE BATH'S READY FROM 6 P.M. ON, BUT IF YOU TAKE ONE BEFORE ME, I'LL KILL YOU
I'm Kazuki.
WE'LL ASK YOU TO KEEP THE COMMON AREAS CLEAN

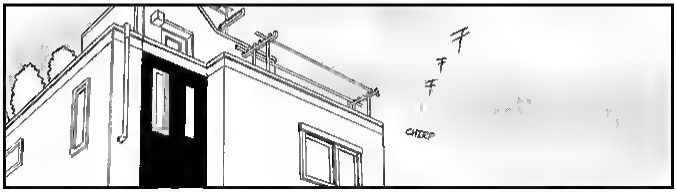
?
THE BOT-TOM ONE...
ALSO, YOU'LL WANNA USE THE TOP BUNK.

バン
BAM
HERE'S YOUR ROOM! SURE, IT'S A SHOE BOX, BUT...
...30,000 FOR A ROOM IN SHIBUYA IS CRAZY CHEAP, RIGHT?!

*Video: Huge Melons Manager

UH...
HOLD ON...
OKAY NEXT. DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWER?
HUH? CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT, TAKARA?
TCH!
FROM TODAY ON, THINK OF ERIKA-SAN AS YOUR NEW MOTHER
PLEASED TO MEET YOU
?!
HUH
PEOPLE I'VE ALWAYS CALLED ME A BLOCK HEAD
I WAS JUST THINKING...
WAIT...
HE TAKES FOREVER TO ANSWER ANYTHING
FREAKING ANNOYING DON'T EVEN TRY TALKING TO
UH, UM...
CUT IT OUT
DON'T YA THINK SO TOO, TAKARA?
...JUST MOVES TOO FAST FOR ME.
IT'S LIKE THE WORLD ...

WITHOUT MY SAYING ANYTHING
PEOPLE TENDED TO AVOID ME
I NEVER ...
...HAD ANYONE TO TURN TO.

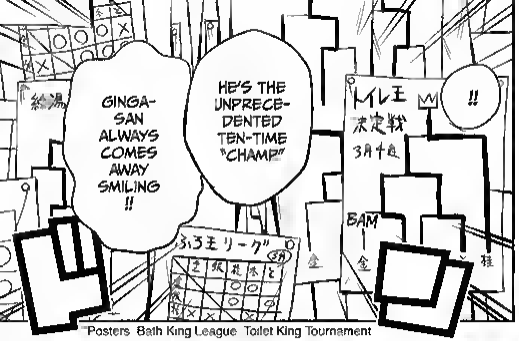

CHIRP

AHHHH! NO, NO!!

LEAST I CAN DO IS HELP OUT A BIT...
THEY'RE LETTING ME LIVE HERE EVEN THOUGH I SHOULDN'T
SNIF
SNIF
SNIF
SNIF

SNIF
SNIF

HUH? YOU FORFEITING?
I'M NOT LETTING YOU LOSE SO GRACIOUSLY, KEISHI. NOT AT SHOGI.
LICK THE GROUND IF YOU MEAN IT!!
DOOM
DOOM
I LOST...
THERE...
SUCH A DEEP BOW. ARE YOU TRULY ASHAMED?
WHAT A HELLISH EXISTENCE
WHAT WAS WITH THAT AMATEURISH HAYAKURI GIN PLAY? YOU UNDERESTIMATING ME?
HONESTLY, I WAS TRYING A BOUGIN STRATEGY
IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO LOSE SO QUICKLY
THEY PLAY MATCHES LIKE THIS DAY IN, DAY OUT... WOW!
GOOD MORNING, SHINOBU-CHAN. DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
OH.. YES
Good morning
I SLEPT MUCH BETTER HERE THAN AT HOME
A COMPLICATED HOME LIFE, MAYBE?
He did say it's hard to live there
OH, ARE YOU CLEANING UP FOR US?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE HOUSEWORK, REALLY.
HUH?

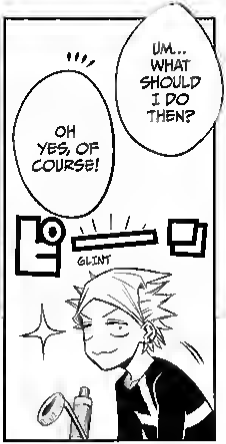

GINGA-SAN ALWAYS COMES AWAY SMILING !!
HE'S THE UNPRECEDENTED TEN-TIME "CHAMP"
!!
BAM!
ドン
"Posters: Bath King League. Toilet King Tournament"

SO KEISHI'S GOT BATHROOM DUTY THIS MONTH TOO
DID KAZUKI WIN?
My my.
SAN!

I DON'T TRY TO LOSE, Y'KNOW.
WE HAVE TO ADMIRE HIM FOR TAKING ON THE JOBS NO ONE WANTS TO DO.
THAT IDIOT ENDS UP DOING MOST OF THE WORK, THOUGH.

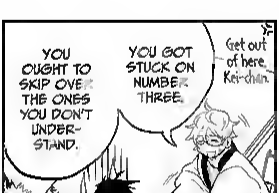
OH... SO YOU DECIDE IT ALL BY SHOGI ?!
YEP.
THOSE ARE THE RULES HERE.

RIGHT. WE'VE STILL GOT SHINOBU TO CONSIDER !!
TOM!
EXCELLENT !!
LEMME TEACH YOU!!
TOM!
HUH?!
TOM!
TOM!


UM... WHAT SHOULD I DO THEN?
OH YES, OF COURSE!
GLINT

SHINOBU'LL GET THE HANG OF IT IF HE'S TAUGHT, YEAH?
IT'S CALLED COMPASSION
SHUT UP, YOU INCONSIDERATE JERKS!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE BETTER THAN THAT, PERMATOILET
WHOA.. WE GET THAT YOU SUCK.. BUT TO PICK ON THE NOOB LIKE THIS...
?!
WEAK
And knock it off with that nickname
You're the worst
...
SORRY, BUT THIS WON'T WORK...
I'M JUST... SO SLOW ON THE UPTAKE.
I'M TERRIBLE AT LEARNING NEW THINGS...
KEISHI-SAN...
OH, SO POLITE !!
SORRY
Oh...
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA KEEP WIPING THAT?
I JUST CAN'T GET THIS SMUDGE OUT...
HE REALLY IS SLOW ON THE UPTAKE...
THAT'S RIGHT DON'T PUT YOURSELF OUT!! AND SHINOBU-CHAN..
WHAAA...

OKAY, THAT'S FORTY MINUTES!
HUH?
ALREADY?
I'LL SCORE IT FOR YOU.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SHINOBU-CHAN.
WHY DON'T YOU BRING ME YOUR STUDY MATERIALS? I'LL TAKE A LOOK.
KIN-CHAN HERE'S A FORMER TUTOR, Y'KNOW.
ARE YOU REALLY?!
HEY STOP THE CLOCK.
KAZUKI PREFERS COLLAR-BONES. WEIRD, HUH?
SO SERIOUS SHINOBU, WHAT'RE YOU INTO?
FETISH-WISE, I MEAN
GIANT BOOBS, MAYBE?
NO.
...
ALL DONE.
HONESTLY, ALL I EVER DO IS STUDY.
SKWEEZ
SKWEEZ
SKWEEZ
SKWEEZ
OHHH?
SO YOU'RE AIMING FOR COLLEGE AND A GOOD JOB AND ALL THAT?


YOU OUGHT TO SKIP OVER THE ONES YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
YOU GOT STUCK ON NUMBER THREE.
Get out of here, Kei-chan.
scrabble

ARE YOU A DUMBASS OR WHAT?!
SLAP
YOU GOT 38 OUT OF 100...

SO JUST TRY A DIFFERENT APPROACH WITH THESE, AND...
OF THE ONES YOU ANSWERED, YOU GOT EVEN THE HARDEST ONES RIGHT.

I SAID "SKIP."
BUT...IT'S NO GOOD TO RUN AWAY JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW
YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE SOMETIMES

MEANWHILE, THE KIDS WHO ALWAYS LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE GOOFING OFF... THEY GOT IN.
BUT I STILL DIDN'T GET INTO MY TOP-CHOICE SCHOOL...
I STUDIED LIKE MY LIFE DEPENDED ON IT.

IF YOU JUST DON'T GET THINGS...
...

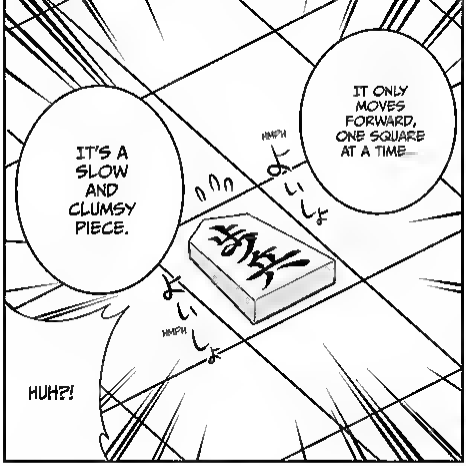
IT'S...
...ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS.

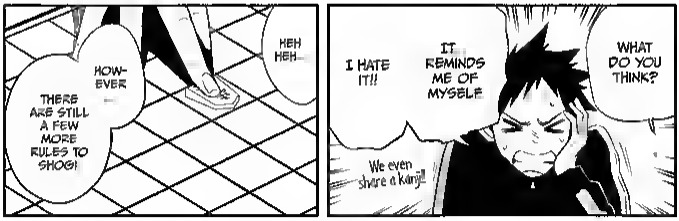
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY TALENT...
ANY EFFORT YOU PUT IN IS TOTALLY MEANINGLESS ...
I'M GUESSING HE'S EXPERI-ENCED A LOT OF REJECTION IN LIFE...
SHINOBU-CHAN.
MAYBE HE'S...
BUT...
...

HOW ABOUT SOME SHOGI? ♡
HUHHH ?!
LIKE I SAID, I'M HOPE-LESS.
パカ
POP
OH, JUST THINK OF THIS AS ANOTHER LESSON ♪
DO YOU KNOW THE RULES?
NO...
NOT A PROBLEM! THE RULES ARE SIMPLE

THE LANCE PIERCES FORWARD IN STRAIGHT LINES!!
THE KNIGHT IS A HORSE THAT JUMPS RIGHT OVER ENEMY PIECES!!
SILVER IS GOOD FOR ATTACKING
..WHILE GOLD ATTACKS AND DEFENDS WITH FEW WEAK-NESSES!
THE ROOK MOVES UP, DOWN, LEFT AND RIGHT WITHOUT LIMIT
AND THE BISHOP WORKS THE SAME WAY BUT ON THE DIAGONAL !!
飛車
Rook
角行
Bishop
金将
Gold
銀将
Silver
桂馬
Knight
香車
Lance

BREAK THROUGH THE ENEMY'S DEFENSES ...
YOU TAKE TURNS MOVING THEM, ONE AT A TIME!!
ALL THE PIECES MOVE DIFFERENTLY!
BAM
AMAZING ...
WELL?!
PANT
...YOU WIN!!
AND IF YOU TAKE THE ENEMY'S KING...
FEK!
WHAT ABOUT THIS...
...PAWN PIECE...?
UM...
BUT...


IT ONLY MOVES FORWARD, ONE SQUARE AT A TIME...
IT'S A SLOW AND CLUMSY PIECE.
HUH?!
HMPH
よいしょ
THE PAWN.
RIGHT...


HEH HEH...
HOW-EVER...
THERE ARE STILL A FEW MORE RULES TO SHOGI
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT REMINDS ME OF MYSELF
I HATE IT!!
We even share a kanji!

LITTLE BY LITTLE...
THE PAWN ADVANCES FORWARD
AND WHEN IT REACHES THE ENEMY CAMP...

PIECES THAT MAKE IT TO THE ENEMY'S CAMP...
...ARE PROMOTED THEY GET STRONGER
!

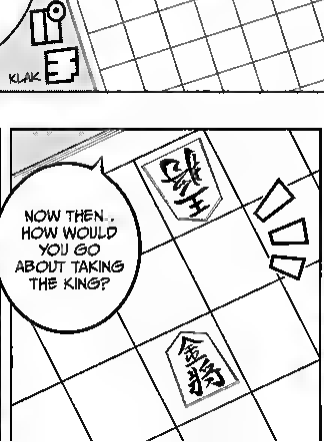
IT EFFECTIVELY TURNS INTO A GOLD!!
KLAK
*Piece Tokin
ONE MORE IMPORTANT RULE
PIECES CAPTURED FROM YOUR OPPONENT CAN BECOME YOUR ALLIES
SO IT'S REALLY THE STRONGEST PIECE.
SO IT'S RISKY TO USE STRONG PIECES AND POSSIBLY LOSE THEM.
BUT IF YOUR TOKIN IS CAUGHT, ALL YOUR OPPONENT GAINS IS A PAWN
*A tokin is a promoted pawn

I GUESS
...I'M A LITTLE INTERESTED ...

WELL?
I LOVE PAWNS NOW!!
Well done little guy !!
YEAHHH!

GREAT! HOW ABOUT A SIMPLE GAME?
WE CALL THIS A SHOGI PROBLEM...
THE GOAL IS TO TAKE THE KING. IT'S SURPRISINGLY DEEP FOR SUCH A SIMPLE PROBLEM.
KLAK

UM...
GOLD CAN ONLY MOVE ONE SPACE AT A TIME, SO


NOW THEN.. HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT TAKING THE KING?

EVERY-ONE SEEMS TO LOVE THESE
HM/PH
OH! A SHOGI PROBLEM ?
Hey!

THE ANSWER IS..
HUH?! THEN WHAT DO I DO...?
Heh
Heh
What a farce
ACK!!
BUT THEN THE KING'LL TAKE YOU INSTEAD.
Ahh...
BAM
FWIP
FIRST I MOVE CLOSER.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! ♡
GLARE
SO THE PAWN TAKES THE KING!!
THOSE PAWNS DO GOOD WORK, HUH?
あーーーあぁ
AHHHHHH
YOU GOTTA BE A PRO TO DO THAT
HE'S GREAT AT GETTING PEOPLE INTO IT
YOU COULD TRY THE SAME THING AS LAST TIME
SO NOW WHAT, SHINOBU?
BUT WHAT IF I GIVE YOU A PAWN TO USE?
HUH?

FWIP
NOW BUILDING ON THAT...
HOW DO YOU SOLVE THIS ONE?
GLARE
THIS GETS PRETTY DEEP!!
WHAT EMOTION IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?
WHOA
UM... LET'S SEE.
Do that
Then that?
THINK. TAKE YOUR TIME.
AROUND HERE, WE'RE USED TO WAITING.
*Piece reflected in eye: King
...
OKAY
THEY'RE GIVING ME TIME

TRY THIS ONE
スッ
FWIP
!!
THIS MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO HARD FOR KEISHI, I THINK
GOOD THINKING
HEY!
THEY'RE PRAISING ME...
HOW ABOUT THIS?
おぉ～
OHHH
WHOA.. KIN-CHAN?!
WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN DIFFICULTY SPIKE?
DON'T BE STUPID
YOU CAN'T GIVE THIS TO A BEGIN-NER
HUH?
パチ
KLAK
パチ
KLAK
パチ
KLAK
LIKE THIS, RIGHT?
HE DID IT...?!
NO WAY!!
OKAY THEN
?

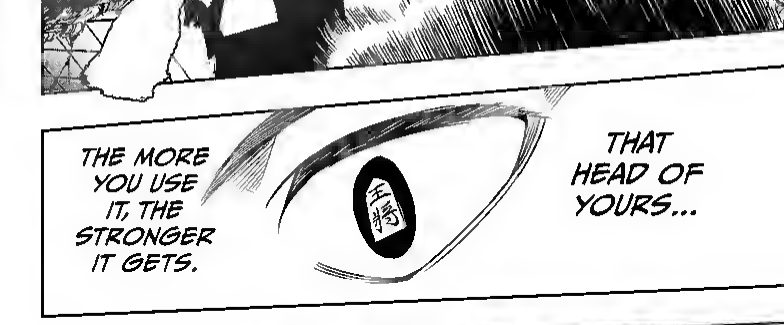
WHAT NOW?
?!
WHOA !!
SOLVING THIS ONE'D PUT HIM AT A RANKING-AMATEUR LEVEL..
I'VE GOT...
...ONE LANCE AND FOUR PAWNS ?
...
USE A PAWN AS BAIT AND LET IT GET TAKEN* GIVEN WHAT THE OPPONENT HAS, HOW WOULD THEY ORDER WITH GOLD, SILVER ?
IF SILVER, THEN I'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS LATERAL WEAKNESS AND STRIKE A DECISIVE BLOW.

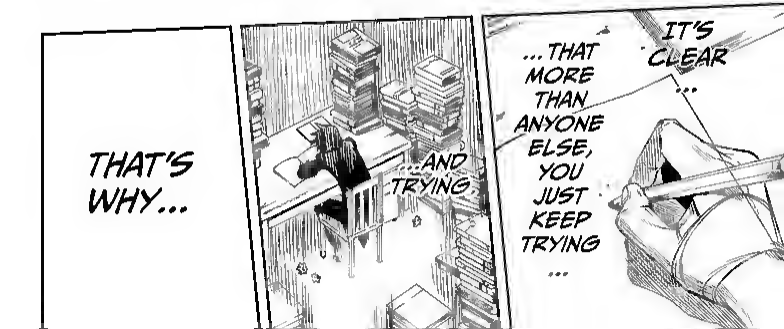
AS I THOUGHT.
YOU REALLY ARE BAD AT GOING WITH THE FLOW!!
BEING SO SHORT-SIGHTED...
...IS ALL BUT USELESS IN THE REAL WORLD.
UNLESS YOU'RE GIVEN...
...A SINGLE, SOLITARY TASK TO DO.
YOUR STRENGTH IS...

WHOOSH
TUNNEL
...
...
VISION!!

GO ON. LOSE SIGHT OF ALL ELSE.
JUST PIERCE RIGHT THROUGH...
THROUGH THE GAME BOARD!
WHOOSH

BOOM


THE MORE YOU USE IT, THE STRONGER IT GETS.
左利
THAT HEAD OF YOURS...


THAT'S WHY...
...AND TRYING
...THAT MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, YOU JUST KEEP TRYING ...
IT'S CLEAR ...

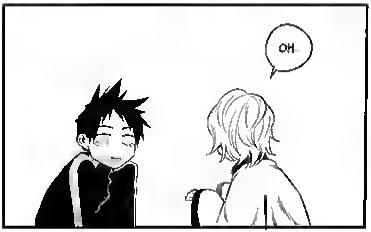
I WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT.
THERE'S NO WORLD OUT THERE ...
... WHERE TRUE EFFORT ISN'T REWARD-ED!!

KLIK
DID HE... REALLY SOLVE IT?

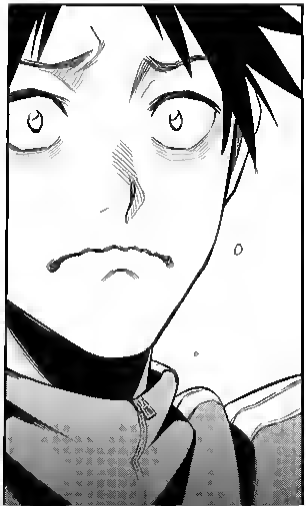
THIS WAS A REALLY HIGH-LEVEL PROBLEM!!
BUT HOW DID HE SOLVE IT WITH BRUTE FORCE?!
YOU'VE GOT REAL TALENT, SHINOBU!!
YEAHHHH
Huh?
NO-BODY'S ...
?!
...EVER... TOLD ME THAT BEFORE...
SHINOBU-CHAN.
WE'RE ...
...A LOT LIKE YOU.

THE GENIUSES OF THE PAST HAVE ALREADY WALKED DOWN THESE PATHS.
IT'S SO EASY TO BREAK DOWN CRYING, WONDERING HOW TO DO BETTER.
THERE ARE DAYS WHEN WE JUST WISH IT WOULD ALL GO AWAY.
EVEN SO, WHAT MAKES US STAND BACK UP, BLOODSTAINED AND RAGGED...
...IS, FOR ALL OF US, THE BELIEF THAT...
SKWEEZ
THAT'S WHY...
WHETHER IT'S IN SHOGI OR OTHERWISE...
...NO EFFORT GOES UNREWARDED.

ALL OF US...
...ARE FRIENDS.

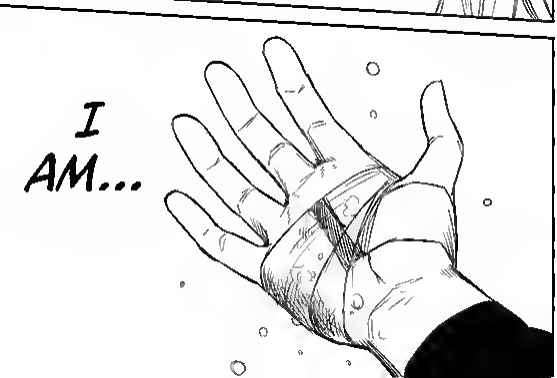

OH.

HUH?!
YOU MADE HIM CRY KIN-CHAN!!
N-NO, I'M SORRY
THAT'S NOT IT...



THE FIRST TIME I CRIED...
...WAS THE DAY I LOST THE ONLY PAIR OF EYES THAT EVER CARED TO LOOK AT ME.
MOM !!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU...
"KE"
!
SKEET
STRAIGHT FORWARD!!
KEEP MOVING STRAIGHT FORWARD...
SHINOBU!

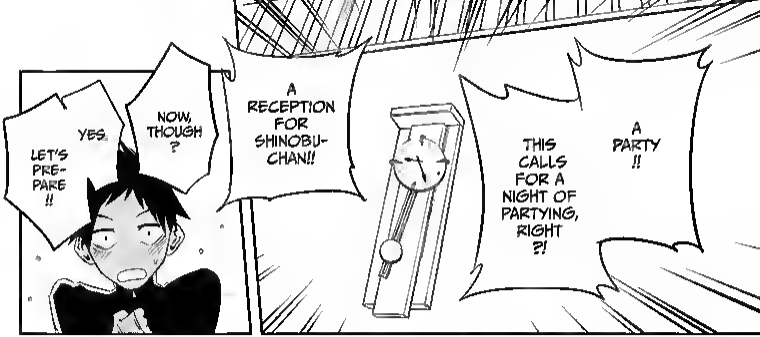
...ANOTHER PERSON SEEMED TO BE ACKNOWLEDGING ME. MAKING ME FEEL LIKE I...
I FELT LIKE GOING CRAZY AND SHOUTING, BECAUSE THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME...

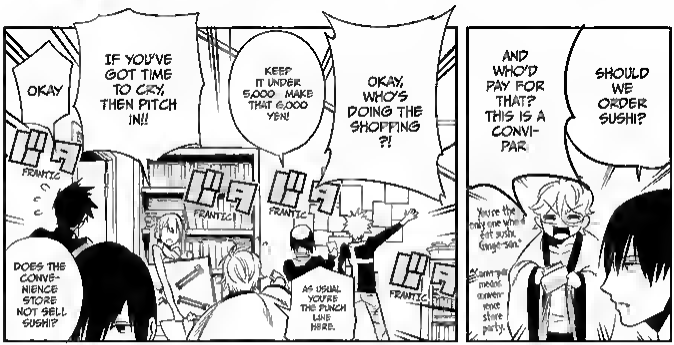


THE SECOND TIME I CRIED...

I AM HERE.

...
YOU'RE
...
...TOO KIND,
REALLY...
ALL
RIGHT!
パン
CLAP


A PARTY !!
THIS CALLS FOR A NIGHT OF PARTYING, RIGHT ?!
A RECEPTION FOR SHINOBU-CHAN!!
NOW, THOUGH ?
YES. LET'S PRE-PARE !!


SHOULD WE ORDER SUSHI?
AND WHO'D PAY FOR THAT? THIS IS A CONVI-PAR
You're the only one who'd eat sushi, Ginga-san.
Aren't we meant to have a convenience store party?
OKAY, WHO'S DOING THE SHOPPING ?!
KEEP IT UNDER 5,000. MAKE THAT 6,000 YEN!
IF YOU'VE GOT TIME TO CRY, THEN PITCH IN!!
OKAY
FRANTIC
FRANTIC
FRANTIC
FRANTIC
DOES THE CONVE-NIENCE STORE NOT SELL SUSHI!?
AS USUAL YOU'RE THE PUNCH LINE HERE.

KLANK
SUNTORY

SOME SAKE, GINGA-SAN?
MAYBE I'LL OPEN THAT MACALLAN WHISKY
YOU DONE WITH THAT, KAZUKI?
HUH, YOU WANT MY SCRAPS? YOU A PIG OR WHAT? FINE TAKE 'EM.
HEY NOW DON'T GO INSULTING THE PIGS...
YOU REALLY LIKE THOSE "CALORIE FRIEND" BARS?
HUH? YEAH. SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT?
YOU'RE MAKING ME WANT TO TRY ONE...
YAP
わい

Okay now
Hm... This tastes awful.
PAY ATTENTION !!
TADAA
PROMOTED LANCE
I see the resemblance
BLERF
IS THAT A GOLD?
Wanna get it?
YOU STUPID? I'M A SILVER.

EVERYONE, THIS PARTY IS SUPPOSED TO BE FOR SHINOBU-CHAN...
OH, IT'S OKAY
I'D LIKE TO WATCH, ACTUALLY
SO QUICK TO START A MATCH.
COME ONNNN
There!
I'll kill you!
Coliseum?
アム?

HEY
SWITCH IN AND PLAY MB, GINGA-SAN.
I CAN'T FOCUS OVER HERE!!
THAT STARE!!
Sub-Writing Session-san
HUH?
STARE

...IF THIS REALLY GIVES HIM THE SELF-CONFIDENCE HE NEEDS.
I WASN'T EXPECTING IT TO GO THIS WELL, BUT...
HA HA HA...
LET'S DO IT!!
!!
HOW ABOUT A SHOGI PROBLEM INSTEAD?
SAM

MOM..
...
KEEP MOVING STRAIGHT AHEAD...

EVEN A SINGLE PAWN...

...CAN CHANGE THE FLOW OF BATTLE.

I'M...
...GONNA BE A PRO!!

AND NOW...

*Pieces: King (top), Pawn (bottom)